

Peninsula and Napoleon would not have been defeated at Waterloo,

Macaulay's Whiggism affected ill judgment of and personages alike. His treatment of the clergy and the country gentry are discussed in chapter VI. Other objects of his antipathy are the Scottish Covenanters and the English non-jurors. Macaulay managed to shatter both with one barrel. The Jacobite non-jurors and the Cameronian non-jurors, he said, 'were perhaps the most remarkable specimens that the world could show of perverse absurdity. Each of them considered his darling form of ecclesiastical polity, not as a means, but as an end, as the one thing needful, as the quintessence of the Christian religion. Each of them childishly fancied that he had found a theory of civil government in his Bible. Neither shrank from the frightful consequences to which his theory led. To all objections, both had one answer—Thus saith the Lord.' Rhetoric like this is a poor substitute for plain statement of the peculiar tenets of the two kinds of non-jurors. In fact the reader has the feeling that Macaulay's contempt for them was not of the kind that familiarity breeds.

When dealing with persons instead of classes or parties Macaulay's political bias again proves a stumbling-block.

It prevents him from judging men fairly. Things which are crimes in James II become venial errors in William III. Compare for instance the tone in which

Macaulay speaks
of James II's connection with Catherine Sedley
and William 11 Ps connection with Elizabeth Villiers.
His perception of moral defects is much keener in the
case of a
Tory than in that of a Whig.

But this is not the only reason which led
Macaulay
seriously to misrepresent certain historical
figures, Mr.

¹ iv, 1945 (xv*)*